



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Crop Progress & Condition

New
England



Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

www.nass.usda.gov/nh

Week ending October 18, 2015

Issued weekly on the internet, April - November
by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov

Released October 19, 2015

Good week for field work: New England averaged 5.0 days suitable for field work last week.

New England experienced seasonably cooler temperatures last week, with areas receiving some of their first hard frosts this fall and even some brief snow showers. Average weekly temperatures in the region ranged from two degrees below normal to six degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 1.33 inches. The harvesting of hay and corn for silage remained underway, with harvests completed on some farms. Potatoes continued to be harvested and placed into storage. Apple and pear harvest continued throughout the region. The apple crop this year has been great, putting apple boxes and bins in short supply and filling up storage sites. In Massachusetts, cranberry harvest remained in full swing. Cranberry yields continued to meet or exceed expectations, but fruit quality and color remained below average. The recent frosts brought an end to harvesting most vegetables in the region. Some vegetable farmers were cleaning up fields, picking up plastic mulch, drip tape, trellis stakes, and irrigation equipment. Other field work this week included spreading lime and manure, fall tillage, soil testing for next season, and putting away farm equipment for the winter.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending October 18, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	19	66	15
SUBSOIL	0	25	63	12

Crop Conditions as of October 18, 2015

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
CRANBERRIES (MA)	0	5	10	65	20
DRY HAY	1	4	22	65	8
PASTURE AND RANGE	2	15	44	38	1
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	3	10	23	29	35

Crop Progress as of October 18, 2015

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: HARVESTED	86
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	93
CRANBERRIES (MA): HARVESTED	55
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	98
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	72
FALL TILLAGE: SINGLE	56
PEARS: HARVESTED	80
POTATOES: HARVESTED	94

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oce/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

October 18, 2015 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	71	28	50	+2	0.14	3	27.41	+3.53	78	2389	+218	4189
	Bangor_Intl_Air	71	28	50	+3	0.43	4	19.85	-1.88	83	2255	+226	4006
	Bethel	73	27	48	+2	0.10	1	27.30	+1.17	73	2076	+151	3804
	Bridgton	70	27	48	+3	0.03	1	29.48	+3.38	68	2047	+317	3790
	Caribou_Municip	62	24	46	+3	0.57	5	21.36	-0.89	91	1945	+463	3600
	Dover-Foxcroft	73	27	46	+4	0.65	5	32.27	+7.40	95	1995	+488	3663
	Durham	71	27	49	+1	0.13	3	25.29	+0.63	82	2164	+175	3941
	East_Surry	68	28	48	-1	0.41	4	23.41	-1.12	77	1888	+3	3593
	Eustis	72	24	44	+3	0.32	4	22.73	-0.54	78	1551	+401	3081
	Frenchville	63	24	44	+3	0.61	4	21.10	-1.71	87	1666	+306	3253
	Harmony	74	25	48	+3	0.47	4	29.22	+4.88	91	2079	+312	3800
	Houlton	64	25	47	+4	0.61	5	27.21	+5.02	83	1914	+398	3556
	Livermore_Falls	72	22	46	+2	0.08	2	28.48	+2.27	76	2009	+475	3706
	Machias	68	28	49	+3	0.50	4	27.02	+0.92	81	1908	+428	3545
	Millinocket_Wtr	71	25	46	+2	0.50	3	30.43	+5.61	81	1842	+78	3457
	Moosehead	72	23	45	+3	0.30	4	27.01	+1.77	89	1812	+504	3442
	Portland_ME	70	27	52	+5	0.04	1	24.92	+1.38	63	2515	+576	4366
	Rangeley_2NW	71	21	43	+2	0.54	5	25.49	+1.33	91	1477	+175	2971
	Sanford	77	25	49	0	0.08	2	22.59	-3.03	47	2441	+196	4218
	Topsfield_2	69	26	47	+3	0.40	5	29.53	+4.29	83	1991	+296	3658
	Turner	73	28	49	-1	0.15	4	27.89	+3.67	76	2290	-57	4057
	Wesley_2W	71	24	47	+2	0.60	4	31.60	+8.51	65	2054	+339	3734
	West_Rockport	70	26	50	+3	0.49	3	27.11	+1.09	80	2226	+404	3974
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	75	25	47	+2	0.28	4	24.91	+0.63	84	1885	+223	3558
	Bradford_2	74	27	48	-2	0.11	2	23.51	-2.09	61	2076	+6	3799
	Colebrook	73	19	44	+1	0.28	6	31.44	+6.55	111	1602	+87	3177
	Concord	77	24	51	+3	0.03	2	22.02	+0.80	64	2786	+612	4622
	East_Milford	78	27	51	+2	0.03	1	22.20	-2.61	56	2618	+284	4457
	Epping	78	24	51	+3	0.05	2	19.54	-4.89	63	2594	+380	4413
	Errol_AP	74	22	44	+2	0.31	5	28.03	+4.90	90	1728	+364	3300
	Fitzwilliam	75	26	50	+4	0.11	2	24.78	-0.16	81	2587	+764	4414
	Greenville	73	26	50	+4	0.03	1	27.70	+2.76	52	2311	+488	4095
	Hancock	74	25	49	+2	1.33	3	32.92	+7.00	81	2277	+272	4038
	Jefferson	73	24	47	+2	0.28	5	33.06	+8.71	101	1966	+236	3644
	Keene_AG	76	25	50	+3	0.13	2	28.08	+4.12	66	2493	+401	4293
	Lakeport_2	73	24	50	+2	0.07	2	23.80	-0.01	64	2493	+213	4304
	Lebanon	76	21	50	+4	0.09	3	21.85	+0.46	69	2647	+621	4463
	North_Conway	77	25	49	+3	0.13	3	26.67	+0.31	80	2093	+92	3831
	Tamworth_4	70	20	45	+1	0.38	4	30.20	+1.47	78	1864	+301	3539
	Wolfeburro	69	31	51	+3	0.23	2	23.80	-0.01	67	2526	+246	4345
Vermont	Bennington_AP	76	23	51	+6	0.21	3	17.91	-11.13	68	2561	+897	4401
	Burlington_Intl	76	27	53	+6	0.35	4	26.81	+3.53	84	2964	+719	4802
	Corinth	68	19	44	-2	0.07	3	30.97	+9.23	81	1793	-4	3418
	Island_Pond	72	20	44	+3	0.44	5	30.02	+4.13	104	1855	+390	3461
	Johnson_2N	75	23	46	+2	0.65	5	29.50	+4.05	90	1858	+204	3531
	Marlboro_Raws	72	24	49	+6	0.08	2	26.01	+2.32	70	2295	+682	4073
	Montpelier_AP	75	19	48	+2	0.13	4	28.08	+6.34	94	2149	+352	3852
	Newport_AG	75	22	47	-1	0.43	5	30.63	+5.96	95	2046	-20	3705

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2015					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	76	23	49	+3	0.17	3	27.66	-0.23	76	2225	+475	3982
	Rutland_AG	75	24	48	-1	0.33	5	23.71	-1.04	84	2233	+87	3988
	Springfield_VT	74	24	49	+5	0.10	3	21.14	-5.28	72	2511	+621	4316
	South_Lincoln	70	21	45	+3	0.28	4	28.87	-0.65	77	1802	+369	3429
	Sutton	70	18	45	+3	0.43	5	30.93	+5.04	106	1872	+407	3514
	Walden	70	14	42	-1	0.64	5	30.50	+4.61	102	1509	+44	3028
	Woodstock	78	21	49	+4	0.11	2	26.73	+2.64	67	2351	+438	4109
Massachusetts	Amherst	75	25	50	+1	0.02	1	9.13	-3.21	19	1257	-1116	2170
	Barre_Falls_Dam	75	26	49	+3	0.08	2	8.61	-2.73	24	922	-896	1750
	Bedford_Hanscom	77	26	53	+3	0.04	3	5.11	-5.79	20	1180	-1263	2024
	Beverly_Ag	72	32	52	-2	0.12	2	4.72	-6.25	16	768	-1889	1354
	Birch_Hill_Dam	75	26	50	+4	0.07	2	8.19	-2.39	19	989	-853	1829
	Boston_Logan_In	76	33	57	+4	0.12	2	5.06	-4.69	19	1340	-1486	2197
	Chatham_AP	70	39	57	+4	0.66	4	9.24	-1.84	21	1106	-1000	1958
	Chicopee_Westov	76	22	52	+3	0.00	0	4.70	-6.86	17	1198	-1175	2049
	Edgartown	71	35	56	+3	1.23	3	11.06	+0.74	16	887	-1527	1443
	East_Brimfield_	73	22	48	-1	0.05	2	6.85	-4.45	20	1091	-1078	1954
	Fitchburg	79	24	53	+4	0.02	2	5.84	-5.81	20	1317	-1158	2169
	Greenfield	74	34	52	+4	0.07	3	10.67	-2.58	28	1377	-996	2372
	Hyannis_AP	72	35	56	+4	0.88	3	8.31	-1.40	17	1156	-1172	2011
	Maynard	81	25	53	+3	0.17	3	8.60	-1.54	22	812	-1631	1383
	New_Bedford	73	32	54	-2	1.33	3	10.72	-0.27	17	1165	-1705	2025
	Newburyport	76	28	52	+2	0.14	2	4.92	-6.35	15	1058	-1414	1903
	North_Adams_Har	77	25	51	+5	0.33	4	8.42	-4.29	23	1056	-718	1888
	Norwood	77	27	51	-1	0.16	2	3.68	-6.78	19	1120	-1443	1962
	Pittsfield	73	26	49	+3	0.33	4	7.28	-5.30	21	994	-1000	1820
	Plymouth	74	32	55	+2	0.78	2	7.49	-4.50	16	1168	-1403	2022
	Taunton_4NW	76	29	54	+2	0.37	3	5.97	-6.27	18	1086	-1432	1729
	Westfield_Barne	74	24	52	+5	0.01	1	6.22	-5.57	16	1305	-732	2160
	West_Otis	74	26	51	+4	0.10	2	7.18	-1.01	17	711	-1230	1254
	Worcester	74	28	52	+3	0.04	2	5.06	-7.36	19	1168	-1049	2011
	Worthington	73	25	48	+1	0.17	4	8.02	-4.35	25	885	-983	1696
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	70	36	57	+3	0.59	3	20.23	-3.05	59	2903	+386	4787
	Providence	73	32	56	+3	0.29	2	21.15	-2.88	54	3286	+523	5201
	Westerly-Wester	70	31	54	+2	0.52	3	20.07	-5.69	53	2847	+289	4725
	Woonsocket	78	29	54	+4	0.14	2	19.08	-7.12	52	3078	+547	4970
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	74	33	58	+4	0.01	1	16.77	-7.93	59	3519	+597	5442
	Danbury_AP	76	26	53	+3	0.03	2	21.47	-8.30	56	3007	+392	4897
	Hartford_Bradle	76	27	54	+3	0.04	2	21.20	-4.94	66	3368	+558	5275
	Meriden-Meriden	76	26	53	+2	0.00	0	12.94	-16.90	49	3298	+729	5192
	Norfolk	71	25	48	0	0.13	4	23.98	-6.48	73	2396	+455	4172
	Norwich	76	32	54	+2	0.15	3	17.59	-10.16	49	3173	+435	5077
	Staffordville	75	26	50	+2	0.03	1	25.39	-2.29	50	2468	+231	4277
	Thomaston_Dam	73	23	50	+2	0.04	1	19.74	-9.12	69	2872	+587	4734
	West_Thompson_L	73	26	50	+2	0.07	3	19.54	-8.32	56	2666	+400	4517
	Willimantic	76	26	53	+5	0.02	1	19.52	-8.16	56	3182	+945	5075

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
Copyright 2015: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

ALL CT COUNTIES, Jude Boucher

Frosts over the weekend - down to 21 degrees on Monday morning.

WINDHAM, Dawn S. Pindell

Frost has brought an end to non-cold hardy vegetables like beans, lettuce, and tomatoes; light rain one day; conditions still remain very dry. Baling hay; combining corn; cover crop looks good. Another busy weekend for orchards with a lot of family and friends enjoying Pick-Your-Own (PYO) apples and the beautiful fall colors.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

We had our first snow on Saturday. Cold, wet weather has made fall work and harvesting the last few potatoes a challenge. Soybeans look like a good crop if winter holds off long enough to harvest them.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

The apple industry is overloaded with apples this year. Also, sales and PYO apples did not start until late in September. Apple boxes are in short supply and storage sites will be full. Along with a shortage of workers this year, it is likely many apples will be left on the ground. Farmers are also busy spreading manure before the ground freezes. Hard freeze over the weekend has ended the growing season.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

There have been snow flurries in the air and the ground surface heavily frosted at night. The growing season is over for sure. Grain corn and soybeans remain standing and drying in the field.

PISCATAQUIS/SOMERSET, Elaine S. Moceus

Great weather for field work as corn silage harvest continues as well as hay harvest and spreading manure.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Thomas Smiarowski

Scattered reports of frost across Massachusetts during the latter part of the week.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis

Most of the week maintained seasonal temperatures but then the weekend had temperatures dipping low and brief snow showers. Forecast is for rebounding temperatures by Wednesday. Report is similar to last week: corn is being chopped, final hay is coming in, apple and pears continued to be harvested and fall vegetables are looking good and in plentiful supply.

PLYMOUTH, Carolyn DeMoranville

Cranberry harvest is still in full swing. Crop yields continue to meet or exceed expectations but fruit quality and color remain below average. Very cold over the weekend with Sunday night into Monday morning bringing the first local freezing conditions of the season.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

BELKNAP/STRAFFORD, Kelly McAdam

Killing frost over the weekend.

CARROLL, Olivia Saunders

Hard frost on October 19th. Temperatures are low and looking to remain low. Last of the season's farmers' markets have been reported to be strong as consumers look for fall products. Corn mazes and cider donuts seem to be very popular.

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski

Cooler weather this week, with a couple hard freezes over the weekend and a few flakes of snow here and there. Corn chopping just about done, and farms looking to get the last of fourth cutting forages. Vegetable operations putting fields to bed. Another great weekend for PYO apples, though the season is winding down.

COOS, Steve Turaj

Mix of sun and rain this week, with temperatures dropping into the teens on the weekend. Hard freeze, frosty mornings. Silage corn harvesting completed by most farms; a few bigger ones with corn yet to come in. Manure spreading to empty storage facilities.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant

We had two hard frosts in the low twenties Saturday and Sunday nights over most of the county, with a few places in the high teens and some spitting snow.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

The beginning of the week brought close to an inch of rain to the area. Field conditions generally remained operable for farm equipment in the Connecticut River valley. The corn harvesting was complete by the end of the week. Some farms have gone back to chopping haylage, while others are winterizing their haying equipment. October 17th and 18th brought a hard killing frost, with temperatures down to the low teens. Farm stands are still offering a variety of seasonal produce. The pumpkin crop appears to be good in terms of quality and availability. Many of the higher elevations are past their peak for fall foliage, but there are still some sites to see in the river valley.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Weather: County-wide hard frost or freeze occurred during week and weekend. Excellent weekend for on-farm sales of farm products. Vegetables: Farmers are cleaning up fields, picking up plastic mulch, drip tape, trellis stakes and irrigation equipment. Farmers are soil testing fields for next season, spreading lime on

fields, and cleaning and putting away farm equipment. Field Crops: Silage corn harvest is almost over. The second and third cuttings of hay and haylage continues. Some farmers are spreading manure and lime on fields, soil testing fields for next season, and cleaning and putting away farm equipment. Fruit: Orchardists busy marketing crop. Farm stands and PYO apple operations had a beautiful weekend! Apple harvest is winding down; harvesting late maturing varieties like Rome, Fuji, and Golden Delicious. Starting to pick up drops. Apple crop is huge, where orchardists are running out of bins. Picking up some apple drops, however, some orchardists are flail mowing under trees and not worrying about the drop apples.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Harvesting leeks, lettuce, greens, and fall raspberries. Busy picking the last tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and zucchini before the frost forecast for end of week. Picking all apple varieties and with some varieties such as Mutsu weighing more than 1 lb. each. PYO apple orchards busy with customers. Cleaning fields and removing plastic. Pumpkins and winter squash abound at farm stands. This week saw some sun, rain, wind, and very cold nights with frost at the end of the week with some snow clouds passing through.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Paul E. Brule

Most of the week was warm, but Friday and Saturday were very cold. Sunday night Rhode Island had its first good freeze. Temperatures are expected to be colder tonight. Silage corn continues to be chopped. Potatoes continue to be harvested and placed into storage. After the first freeze last night I do not know what is left for vegetables. Weather will be warming back up during the middle to the end of the week. Farm stands did well this weekend – even with the cool weather – selling pumpkins, hay, cornstalks, etc.

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Thunderstorm in southern RI the morning of October 16th produced hail in some areas. Do not know if any farms were hit or harmed.

VERMONT

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Good weather week in Franklin County has made for a finale to corn harvest. Still could find some corn not harvested and some set up for picking, however, very limited amount. Apples are dropping as fast as the leaves with wind, some rain, and snow in the mix. Fall tillage and manure spreading are underway, however, not a lot in this category due to good conditions to spread on grass ground late this summer. This is allowing for some good nutrient management with uptake during the growing season instead of waiting for crop uptake into the next growing season.